

Message Text

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PAGE 01 SANA 02576 301345Z
ACTION INR-10

INFO OCT-01 NEA-11 ISO-00 CIAE-00 NSAE-00 /022 W
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R 301336Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY SANA
TO AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 4879

C O N F I D E N T I A L SANA 2576

E.O. 11652: XGDS-2
TAGS: PINR
SUBJ: BIO INFORMATION ON AMBASSADOR OF YEMEN ARAB REPUBLIC
TO KUWAIT

REF: KUWAIT 3103

1. AT TIME OF REVOLUTION IN 1962, ABDULLA AL-DHABBI WAS PRIVATE SECRETARY TO IMAM BADR AND KNOWN TO SHARE HOPE OF YOUNG IMAM THAT ASSOCIATION WITH SOCIALIST STATES COULD LEAD TO MODERNIZATION OF COUNTRY AND REORIENTATION OF PENINSULAR FOREIGN RELATIONS AWAY FROM CONSERVATISM IN ADEN AND SAUDIS TO NORTH. DHABBI QUICKLY DESERTED IMAM TO JOIN WITH ABDULLA SALAL WHO BECAME PRESIDENT OF NEW REPUBLIC AFTER LEADING ARMED ATTACKS ON BADR'S PALACE. DHABBI IS OF LOW CASTE ORIGIN, AS SALAL WAS, AND HAD TRACTABLE NATURE, AGAIN LIKE SALAL. PATTERN OF DHABBI'S CAREER WAS LARGELY DETERMINED BY FLUCTUATING POWER OF SALAL. DHABBI WAS MILITARY OFFICER AND IN 1966, WHEN SALAH RETURNED BY EGYPTIANS TO STEM EROSION OF SUPPORT FOR REPUBLIC, DHABBI BECAME GOVERNOR OF HODEIDA.

2. NOTABLE THAT DHABBI, DURING WORST PERIOD OF PERSECUTION OF AMERICAN EMBASSY IN 1966 AND 1967, WAS EQUABLE AND REASONABLE IN ALL HIS DEALINGS WITH US.

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3. DHABBI'S PROMINENCE HAS LONG BEEN ON WANE AND WE DOUBT HE WILL EVER HOLD AGAIN POSITIONS LIKE MINISTER OF INTERIOR. HIS ASSIGNMENT TO KUWAIT IS POLITE EXILE.
RANSOM

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NNN

Message Attributes

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